GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:194
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2007
NATIONAL AFFORESTATION AND ECO-DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Mediyam Dr. Babu Rao

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Afforestation and Eco Development Board is involved in the development of forest villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the existing schemes to provide minimum facilities to the Scheduled Tribes dwelling in the forest areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 194 BY DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM REGARDING "NATIONAL AFFORESTATION AND ECO-DEVELOPMENT BOARD" DUE FOR REPLY ON 28.11.2007.

(a), (b) & (c) A specific scheme for development of forest villages titled "Development of Forest Villages" is being implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs under the Special Central Assistance (SCA) of the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP). Under the scheme, funds are provided by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the Tribal or Social Welfare Department of States which in turn provides funds to the Forest Development Agencies (FDAs). The scheme aims to provide basic infrastructural facilities like approach roads, drinking water, healthcare, minor irrigation etc. and support to the livelihood of the villagers. The National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board (NAEB) does not directly implement this scheme, it assists the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in examination of the proposals received from States under this scheme. The NAEB has also issued guidelines in April 2004 to assist the formulation of projects under the scheme.

As per information provided by the Ministry of Tribal affairs, proposals covering 2388 forest villages/habitations in 11 States have been approved and a total amount of Rs. 45924.71 lakhs have been released during 2005-06 to 2007-08 (as on 15-11-2007) under the Development of Forest Villages Scheme. The state wise details are annexed.